



General Assembly

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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 45

THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: PROCEDURES FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIRM AND LASTING PEACE AND PROGRESS
IN FASHIONING A REGION OF PEACE, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY
AND DEVELOPMENT

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica,
Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras,
Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay,
Romania, Sweden, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Considering the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, particularly resolution 637 (1989) of 27 July 1989; and its own resolutions, particularly resolution 43/24 of 15 November 1989, in which it requests the Secretary-General to continue his good offices and to afford the fullest possible support to the Central American Governments in their efforts to achieve the objectives of peace, reconciliation, democracy, development and justice established in the agreement on "Procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America" of 7 August 1987,¹

Reaffirming its resolutions in which it recognizes and stresses the importance of international, economic, financial and technical cooperation and assistance, both bilateral and multilateral, aimed at promoting economic and social development in the region with a view to furthering and supplementing the efforts of the Central American peoples and Governments to achieve peace and democratization, particularly resolution 50/58 B of 12 December 1995, concerning international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America,

¹ A/42/521-S/19085, annex; for the printed text, see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1987, document S/19085, annex.



Emphasizing the importance of the establishment of the Central American Integration System as the institutional framework having as its main objective to promote a comprehensive integration process; the adoption of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America, which constitutes the new integrated programme for national and regional development containing the commitments and priorities of the countries of the area for the promotion of political, economic, social, cultural and environmental progress; the establishment of the subsystem and of the regional social policy; the new model of democratic Central American security and the implementation of other agreements adopted at the presidential summit meetings; which taken together constitute the global frame of reference for maintaining and consolidating the peace process and the basis for a mutually advantageous redefinition of relations between Central America and the international community,

Welcoming with satisfaction the Agreement on a Firm and Lasting Peace signed between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca on 29 December 1996,² whereby all the agreements signed within the context of the peace process and under the auspices of the United Nations came into force, thereby putting an end to the last and most long-standing armed confrontation in the region,

Recognizing the progress made in the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the Guatemala peace agreements, implementation of which is being verified by the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala, including those relating to the demobilization and reintegration of former combatants into civilian life, the treatment of returnees, the establishment of special commissions, the promotion and protection of human rights and progress in respect of constitutional reforms,

Recognizing with satisfaction the role played by the peacekeeping operations and observer and monitoring missions of the United Nations, which carried out successfully their mandate in Central America pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly, respectively,

Welcoming the changes and progress made by the Central American people, whose efforts have brought about, inter alia, constitutional reforms, the strengthening and demilitarization of civil society, the creation of new political spaces, the holding of free and pluralistic elections, the creation of mechanisms for the protection and promotion of human rights, freedom of expression, the strengthening of democratic institutions and of the rule of law, the execution of judicial reform processes and the adoption of a fairer development model providing greater opportunities for the Central American peoples,

Emphasizing the importance of the end of a critical period in Central American history and the start of a new phase free from armed conflict, with freely elected Governments in each country and with profound political, economic, social and other changes which have created a climate conducive to the

² A/51/796-S/1997/114, annex II.

promotion of economic growth and further progress towards the consolidation and further development of democratic, just and equitable societies,

Reaffirming that peace and firm and lasting democracy in Central America is a dynamic and ongoing process that faces serious structural challenges, the continuation and consolidation of which is closely related to progress in human development - including the alleviation of extreme poverty, the promotion of economic and social justice, judicial reform, the safeguarding of human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for minorities and the satisfaction of the basic needs of the most vulnerable groups among the people of the region - the absence of which has been a primary source of tension and conflict and which therefore deserves to be discussed with the same urgency and dedication as was the case in the settlement of the armed conflicts,

Emphasizing also the joint participation of the presidents of the Central American countries in the general debate at its fifty-second session, during which, in accordance with the commitments undertaken, they reaffirmed their decision and political will to continue doing their utmost to expedite gradually and progressively, the Central American union referred to in the declaration of Nicaragua of 2 September 1997, as a higher expression of the common association called for in the Tegucigalpa protocol of 12 December 1991,³

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General;⁴
2. Commends the efforts of the peoples and Governments of the Central American countries to re-establish peace and democracy throughout the region and promote sustainable development by implementing the agreements adopted at the summit meetings, and supports the decision of the presidents that Central America should become a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development;
3. Emphasizes the importance of the global frame of reference and the establishment of national and regional development priorities as the basis for promoting the effective, consistent and sustainable progress of the Central American peoples, and for providing international cooperation in accordance with the new circumstances in and outside the region;
4. Recognizes the need to continue to follow closely the situation in Central America in order to support national and regional efforts to overcome the underlying causes that have led to armed conflicts, avoid reversals and consolidate peace and democratization in the area, and promote the objectives of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America;
5. Welcomes the signing of the Agreement on a Firm and Lasting Peace and the entry into force of the other agreements concluded during the peace process between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca, as well as the progress achieved in implementing those agreements, and urges all sectors of Guatemalan society to join efforts and work with

³ A/46/829, annex III.

⁴ A/52/344.

courage and determination to consolidate peace in keeping with the spirit and letter of the Peace Agreements;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, the bodies and programmes of the United Nations, and the international community to continue to support and verify in Guatemala the implementation of all the peace agreements signed under United Nations auspices, compliance with which is an essential condition for a firm and lasting peace in that country, and to provide their resolute support for the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala in the fulfilment of its mandate;

7. Recognizes the importance of the Central American Integration System as the necessary legal and institutional body for coordinating and harmonizing efforts to achieve economic, social, cultural, environmental and political integration of the Central American countries in accordance with the goals and priorities established by the Governments of the Isthmus in order to consolidate peace and democratization, and calls upon the international community, the United Nations system and other international governmental and non-governmental organizations to provide generous and effective cooperation with a view to improving the competence and efficiency of the Central American Integration System in the fulfilment of its mandate;

8. Encourages the Central American Governments to continue to carry out their historic responsibilities by fully implementing the commitments they have assumed under regional or national agreements, especially the commitments to implement the social programme to overcome poverty and unemployment, establish a more just and equitable society, improve public safety, consolidate a modern and transparent public administration, and eliminate corruption, impunity, acts of terrorism and drug and arms trafficking; all these are necessary and urgent measures for establishing a firm and lasting peace in the region;

9. Reiterates its deep appreciation to the Secretary-General, his special representatives, the groups of friends for the peace processes in El Salvador (Colombia, Mexico, Spain, United States of America and Venezuela) and Guatemala (Colombia, Mexico, Norway, Spain, United States of America and Venezuela), the support group for Nicaragua (Canada, Mexico, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden), the political dialogue and cooperation with the European Union, and also to other cooperating countries and the international community in general for its support and solidarity in the building of peace, democracy and development in Central America;

10. Reaffirms the importance of international cooperation, in particular cooperation with the bodies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and the donor community in the new stage of consolidating peace and democracy in Central America, and urges them to continue to support Central American efforts to achieve those goals, bearing in mind the global framework of the new regional development strategy, which is in keeping with the collective aspirations and needs of the Central American peoples;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to lend his full support for the initiatives and activities of the Central American Governments, particularly their efforts to consolidate peace and democracy through the

implementation of a new, comprehensive sustainable development programme, and the initiative to establish the Central American Union, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-third session the item entitled "The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development".



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local and national response capacities as well as on the availability of financial resources to the different parties concerned,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General,¹ prepared in pursuance of its resolution 50/19, on the participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development;

2. Welcomes also the commendable progress of the White Helmets initiative as an international effort to provide the United Nations with an instrument for dealing more effectively with complex humanitarian emergencies;

3. Recognizes the White Helmets and their operational partner, the United Nations Volunteers as an efficient and viable institutional and financial mechanism for making for making pre-identified and trained homogeneous teams available to the United Nations system, in support of immediate relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development activities;

4. Calls upon Member States to enhance cooperation with United Nations agencies as well as to facilitate cooperative actions between the United Nations system and their respective civil societies, in order to implement further the availability of national volunteer corps to the United Nations system in case of wide humanitarian emergencies;

5. Encourages Member States to continue with the establishment of their respective national focal points for White Helmets in order to provide the United Nations system with an accessible global network of rapid-response facilities in case of humanitarian crisis;

6. Invites Member States and the United Nations system to continue to develop and implement further ways and means to ensure the full integration of the White Helmets initiative into their programme activities, particularly those related to humanitarian, disaster and relief assistance and, at the field level, to enhance coordination and support through the United Nations resident coordinator system;

7. Invites the Secretary-General to consider the potential use of White Helmets/United Nations Volunteers as a resource for preventive action and post-conflict peace-building activities;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to identify, within the context of the ongoing reform efforts, the office in New York that will be responsible for the White Helmets liaison functions;

9. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, in the context of the cluster of issues related to the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", on the actions taken in line with the present resolution.

¹ A/52/586.



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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 20 (f)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER
RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
AND COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO STUDY, MITIGATE AND MINIMIZE THE
CONSEQUENCES OF THE CHERNOBYL DISASTER

Belarus, Russian Federation and Ukraine: draft resolution

Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination
of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences
of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/190 of 21 December 1990, 46/150 of
18 December 1991, 47/165 of 18 December 1992, 48/206 of 21 December 1993, and
50/134 of 20 December 1995, and taking note of the decisions adopted by the
organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system in the
implementation of those resolutions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1990/50 of 13 July 1990,
1991/51 of 26 July 1991 and 1992/38 of 30 July 1992 and Council decision
1993/232 of 22 July 1993,

Noting with appreciation the contribution made by States and by
organizations of the United Nations system to the development of cooperation to
mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and the
activities of regional and other organizations, in particular the Commission of
the European Communities, as well as bilateral activities and those of
non-governmental organizations,

Welcoming the commitments made by Member States in the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,¹ to intensify cooperation, inter alia, in the prevention and reduction of major technological and other disasters with an adverse impact on the environment, and in disaster relief and post-disaster rehabilitation in order to enhance the capabilities of affected countries to cope with such situations, as well as commitments made in response to the appeal of the Secretary-General on the occasion of tenth anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident,

Conscious of the long-term nature of the consequences of the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which was a major technological catastrophe in terms of its scope and created humanitarian, environmental, social, economic and health consequences and problems of common concern, requiring for their solution wide and active international cooperation and coordination of efforts in this field at the international and national levels,

Expressing profound concern about the ongoing effects on the lives and health of people, in particular children, in the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as well as in other countries affected by the Chernobyl disaster,

Taking into consideration the findings and outcome of the United Nations needs-assessment mission to the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine in May 1997, as well as the conclusions and recommendations of the United Nations-sponsored international seminar on the theme "Chernobyl and beyond: humanitarian assistance to victims of technological disasters", held in Moscow in May 1997,

Noting the readiness of Ukraine in principle to close the Chernobyl nuclear power plant by 2000, bearing in mind the need for adequate support from relevant countries and international organizations for that purpose,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/134,²

1. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in the implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and, through existing coordination mechanisms, in particular the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl, to continue to maintain close cooperation with the agencies of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and other relevant organizations, with a view to encouraging the regular exchange of information, cooperation and coordination of multilateral and bilateral efforts in those areas, while implementing programmes and specific projects, inter alia, in the framework of relevant agreements and arrangements;

2. Invites States, in particular donor States, relevant multilateral financial institutions and other concerned parties of the international

¹ General Assembly resolution S-19/2 of 27 June 1997.

² A/52/537.

community, including non-governmental organizations, to continue to provide support to the ongoing efforts made by Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

3. Welcomes the decision of the Heads of State and Government of the seven major industrial States and the European Community, adopted at Denver, United States of America, in June 1997, regarding assistance in securing the environmental safety of the sarcophagus covering the remains of the destroyed Chernobyl reactor and the allocation of US\$ 300 million for a shelter implementation plan;

4. Expresses its appreciation for the contributions made to the shelter implementation plan at the International Chernobyl Shelter Pledging Conference for Governments, held in New York on 20 November 1997 and urges both public and private contributions to the plan;

5. Welcomes the preparation by the United Nations, in cooperation with the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, of the inter-agency programme of international assistance to areas affected by the Chernobyl disaster;

6. Welcomes also the convening by the United Nations of a special international meeting on Chernobyl, held on 25 November 1997, to generate further support to the populations of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine affected by the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster and urges them to continue to contribute towards the implementation of the projects specified in the above-mentioned inter-agency programme;

7. Takes note with satisfaction of the establishment in Ukraine of the International Chernobyl Centre,³ with the active participation of Belarus and the Russian Federation, as an important step towards enhancement of the capabilities of the international community to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of such accidents and invites all interested parties to take part in the activities of the Centre;

8. Urges the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl to continue his efforts aimed at strengthening international cooperation to overcome the health, social, economic and ecological consequences of the Chernobyl disaster in the most affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, based on the inter-agency programme of international assistance to areas affected by the Chernobyl disaster;

9. Calls upon the Secretary-General to continue the regular exchange of information with the countries concerned, relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, with a view to enhancing world public awareness of the consequences of such disasters;

³ Formerly known as the International Scientific and Technological Centre for Nuclear and Radiological Accidents.

10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, under a separate sub-item, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.



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Fifty-second session
Agenda item 20 (f)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER
RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO STUDY, MITIGATE AND
MINIMIZE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE CHERNOBYL DISASTER

Argentina, Belarus, Japan, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation,
Slovakia, Tajikistan and Ukraine: revised draft resolution

Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination
of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences
of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 45/190 of 21 December 1990, 46/150 of
18 December 1991, 47/165 of 18 December 1992, 48/206 of 21 December 1993, and
50/134 of 20 December 1995, and taking note of the decisions adopted by the
organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system in the
implementation of those resolutions,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1990/50 of 13 July 1990,
1991/51 of 26 July 1991 and 1992/38 of 30 July 1992 and Council decision
1993/232 of 22 July 1993,

Noting with appreciation the contribution made by States and by
organizations of the United Nations system to the development of cooperation to
mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and the
activities of regional and other organizations, in particular the Commission of
the European Communities, as well as bilateral activities and those of
non-governmental organizations,

Welcoming the commitments made by Member States in the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,¹ to intensify cooperation, inter alia, in the prevention and reduction of major technological and other disasters with an adverse impact on the environment, and in disaster relief and post-disaster rehabilitation in order to enhance the capabilities of affected countries to cope with such situations, as well as commitments made in response to the appeal of the Secretary-General on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident,

Conscious of the long-term nature of the consequences of the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, which was a major technological catastrophe in terms of its scope and created humanitarian, environmental, social, economic and health consequences and problems of common concern, requiring for their solution wide and active international cooperation and coordination of efforts in this field at the international and national levels,

Expressing profound concern about the ongoing effects on the lives and health of people, in particular children, in the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, as well as in other countries affected by the Chernobyl disaster,

Taking into consideration the findings and outcome of the United Nations needs-assessment mission to the affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine in May 1997, as well as the conclusions and recommendations of the United Nations-sponsored international seminar on the theme "Chernobyl and beyond: humanitarian assistance to victims of technological disasters", held in Moscow in May 1997,

Noting the readiness of Ukraine in principle to close the Chernobyl nuclear power plant by 2000, bearing in mind the need for adequate support from relevant countries and international organizations for that purpose,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/134,²

1. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in the implementation of the relevant General Assembly resolutions and, through existing coordination mechanisms, in particular the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl, to continue to maintain close cooperation with the agencies of the United Nations system, as well as with regional and other relevant organizations, with a view to encouraging the regular exchange of information, cooperation and coordination of multilateral and bilateral efforts in those areas, while implementing programmes and specific projects, inter alia, in the framework of relevant agreements and arrangements;

2. Invites States, in particular donor States, relevant multilateral financial institutions and other concerned parties of the international

¹ General Assembly resolution S-19/2 of 27 June 1997.

² A/52/537.

community, including non-governmental organizations, to continue to provide support to the ongoing efforts made by Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

3. Welcomes the decision of the Heads of State and Government of the seven major industrial States and the European Community, adopted at Denver, United States of America, in June 1997, regarding assistance in securing the environmental safety of the sarcophagus covering the remains of the destroyed Chernobyl reactor and the allocation of US\$ 300 million for a shelter implementation plan;

4. Expresses its appreciation for the contributions made to the shelter implementation plan at the International Chernobyl Shelter Pledging Conference for Governments, held in New York on 20 November 1997, and urges further contributions to the plan;

5. Welcomes the preparation by the United Nations, in cooperation with the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, of the inter-agency programme of international assistance to areas affected by the Chernobyl disaster;

6. Welcomes also the convening by the United Nations of a special international meeting on Chernobyl, held on 25 November 1997, to generate further support to the populations of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine affected by the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster and urges them to continue to contribute towards the implementation of the projects specified in the above-mentioned inter-agency programme;

7. Takes note with satisfaction of the establishment in Ukraine of the International Chernobyl Centre,³ with the active participation of Belarus and the Russian Federation, as an important step towards enhancement of the capabilities of the international community to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of such accidents and invites all interested parties to take part in the activities of the Centre;

8. Urges the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation on Chernobyl to continue his efforts aimed at strengthening international cooperation to overcome the health, social, economic and ecological consequences of the Chernobyl disaster in the most affected areas of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, based on the inter-agency programme of international assistance to areas affected by the Chernobyl disaster;

9. Calls upon the Secretary-General to continue the regular exchange of information with the countries concerned, relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, with a view to enhancing world public awareness of the consequences of such disasters;

³ Formerly known as the International Scientific and Technological Centre for Nuclear and Radiological Accidents.

10. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, under a separate sub-item, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.
